

I am in full support of the merger. As resident of Brick, NJ (08723), I have had the choice of ONE cable operator for the last 22 years. This cable company is Comcast (prior to that, it was Storer which was purchased by Comcast).

Surrounding towns (e.g. Toms River) have had the choice of cable companies to choose from.

For 20 years we have lived with a regional monopoly of a single cable company, subject to its pricing whims with the only other option of using an antenna to pick up one (or at best two) network stations. Finally, competition arose with the arrival of Dish and DirectTV.

Individually, though, they do not and can not offer enough services to significantly break the hold that Comcast has on the region.

I know that the merger will provide me and other residents of my community with a range of channels and services that Comcast does not, making it a viable competitor.

If the merger doesn't get approved, then I would like someone to explain why we have had only ONE choice of cable providers for the last 20 years while others haven't, and why there is no sign that that situation will change over the next 20.

To me, if the merger goes through, my community will finally have a legitimate choice of providers: One with the ease of multiple hook-ups (Comcast) and one which - in compensation - offers a better range of services.

Thank you,

-Richard L. Pastore